

**America's Health
Insurance Plans**

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March 8, 2007

The Honorable Henry Waxman
Chairman
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), I am writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 1038, the "Life-Saving Medicine Act of 2007."

AHIP's members share your commitment to improving the availability and affordability of safe and effective generic biopharmaceuticals. Your legislation offers a common sense approach to accelerating approval by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of generic versions of life-saving biological products. For millions of health care consumers, this proposal offers the hope of significant cost savings and greater access to advances in biotechnology.

I also want to share with you that AHIP's Board of Directors recently approved the enclosed statement expressing support for legislation that would provide an expedited means of bringing safe and effective generic biologics to the market. Our statement outlines three key principles to guide these legislative efforts: (1) promoting the timely market entry of generic biologics; (2) ensuring that generic biologics are comparable to brand-name products in safety, quality, and efficacy; and (3) providing a mechanism to allow the review criteria to keep pace with innovation in biologics. We appreciate your leadership in developing bipartisan legislation that addresses these principles.

We look forward to working with you to build support for congressional action on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ka", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Karen Ignagni
President and CEO

Enclosure